

THE
LIFE
OF
JOHN MOORE, M.D.

OF the eminent writer, whose works are presented to the world, the particulars which compose the personal history are insufficient to satisfy the curiosity that his writings must excite, and disproportionate to his eminence and his fame. A few dates and notices, recorded in scanty memorials, scarcely more ample and satisfactory than the inscription of a common grave-stone, afford little scope for amplification and embellishment.

Dr. JOHN MOORE was born at Stirling in the year 1729.* He was the eldest son of the Rev. Charles Moore, one of the ministers of that town, formerly one of the ministers of Culross, and of Marion Anderson, daughter of John Anderson, Esq., of Dowhill, near Glasgow.† His father

* It appears from the records of the kirk-session that he was baptized on the 7th of December.

† Her paternal ancestors had been long settled in that great commercial city, where they acquired considerable property, and were advanced to the highest stations in the magistracy.

was a man of distinguished piety and prudence, and highly respected for the purity of his manners, and the amiableness of his disposition.* His mother was a woman of admirable good sense, and of great gentleness of disposition, and firmness of moral and religious principle. They had two sons and five daughters,† of whom the youngest was born after the death of her father, which happened in the year 1737.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Moore left Stirling, and returned to Glasgow, her birth-place, the residence of her relations, and the place of her paternal inheritance.

In the education of her children, which now devolved upon this excellent woman, she was enabled, by the strength of her understanding, to conduct her own affairs with becoming propriety, and, by a living example, to infuse into the minds of others the early love of piety and humanity.

Her eldest son very early discovered a remarkable inclination to letters, and the most promising indications of the lively wit, vigour of understand-

The populous suburb of Anderston was founded by a relative, as early as 1725.

* In the agitation of the great question, the right of patronage, he was an advocate for the moderate exercise of the law. On the translation of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine from Portmoak to Stirling, he predicted the memorable schism that ensued, by his colleague declining the jurisdiction of the established church, and founding the secession-church, which, under different denominations, now comprehends a large portion of the population of Scotland.

† Jean, baptized 9th October 1728; John, 7th December 1729; Anne, 17th February 1731; Charles, 14th May 1732; Marion, 26th December 1733; Mary, 16th March 1735; Charles Barbara, 20th May 1737.

ing, quickness of penetration, and vivacity of imagination, which characterized his future life.

The beautiful and sublime scenery of the Carse of Stirling, in which he drew his first breath, and spent the first years of his life, and the striking monuments of regal and monastic magnificence, and the interesting scenes of heroic actions, which presented themselves on all sides to his eyes, were calculated to make a strong impression on his imagination, and to create in his mind those ardent feelings of honourable pride and affection which he ever retained for his native country.*

After the usual course of instruction in the rudiments of classical learning at the grammar-school of Glasgow, he was matriculated at the university, and attended the several classes of languages and philosophy, with sufficient diligence and success.

By the advice of his relations, and his own predilection for the medical profession, he was put apprentice to Mr. John Gordon, a surgeon of extensive practice, and a citizen of great and well-merited popularity, who had the credit of having the

* The Carse, or vale of Stirling, extends from east to west, in a perfect level of about thirty miles in length and about five in breadth. The Grampian mountains, which, in some parts, present a most sublime and picturesque appearance, bound the prospect to the north and north-west. That to the north-east is bounded by the Ochil hills, which skirt the Carse. An irregular range of swelling hills terminates the view from the west to the south-west, where the prospect is unbounded. Through this vale, highly cultivated, and interspersed with villas, hamlets, and ruins, the Forth winds its serpentine course. The view from Stirling castle, the favourite residence of the Scottish kings, commands the windings of the Forth, the abbey of Cambuskenneth, the village of Bannockburn, and, in a favourable day, though distant thirty-five miles, Edinburgh castle.

celebrated author of "Roderick Random" apprenticed to him a few years before.*

During his apprenticeship, he attended the lectures of the professors of anatomy and medicine in the university, with success proportionable to his opportunities of improvement. The study of physic did not, however, engross his whole attention. He found leisure to cultivate the study of morality, philosophy, history, belles lettres, and poetry. He had every assistance necessary for the cultivation of general literature and the sciences. He lived with associates of his own age, the companions of his academical studies, whose example and conversation prompted him to the acquisition of knowledge, and the exercise of his genius.

In the year 1747, at the age of nineteen, having finished his apprenticeship, and obtained a sufficient knowledge of the usual practice, he was recommended by his relations, for a situation in the army, to the patronage of the late Duke of Argyle, then a commoner, a lieutenant-colonel of a regiment of foot, and representative in parliament for the Glasgow district of boroughs.

At that period the Duke of Cumberland commanded the allied army in Flanders; and students

* Dr. Smollett is supposed, in spite of the most incompatible circumstances, to have drawn the character of Mr. Gordon under the name of *Potion*, in his "Roderick Random." In the character of *Bramble*, in his "Expedition of Humphry Clinker," he declares his real opinion of this worthy man in the following terms.—"I was introduced to Dr. Gordon, a patriot of a truly noble spirit, who is the father of the linen manufactory in that place, and was the great promoter of the city work-house, infirmary, and other works of public utility. Had he lived in ancient Rome, he would have been honoured with a statue at the public expense." He died in 1772.

from all parts of Britain repaired to the continent, with a view of deriving instruction and improvement from the practice of the hospitals. The Duke of Argyle's regiment being ordered for embarkation, he accompanied him aboard, and passed over to the continent under his protection.

On his arrival at Maestricht, he attended, in the capacity of a mate, the military hospitals there, then full of wounded soldiers, after the unfortunate battle of Laffeldt.

His services, on this occasion, obtained the approbation of Mr. Middleton, director-general of the military hospitals, who recommended him, soon after, to the Earl of Albemarle, colonel of the Coldstream regiment of foot guards, and a general in the army; and he was detached to the assistance of the surgeon of that regiment, then quartered at Flushing, under the command of General Braddock, in which there was an extraordinary sickness. He accompanied this regiment from Flushing to Breda, where he spent the winter of 1748, in garrison, and, on the conclusion of peace, accompanied General Braddock to England.

After remaining, some time, in London, and attending the lectures on anatomy of his countryman, Dr. Hunter, he determined to avail himself of the opportunities of improvement to be found in attending the hospitals and lectures of the French metropolis, which, at that period, had deservedly the reputation of being the best school of medicine and surgery in Europe.

He set out, accordingly, for Paris, in company with his countryman, Sir William Fordyce, who had served with him in Flanders as surgeon's mate

of the third regiment of foot-guards, and who afterwards practised as a physician, with distinguished reputation.

Soon after his arrival, he paid his respects to the Earl of Albemarle, the British ambassador at the court of Versailles, and was immediately recognised, and protected by his Excellency, who had a high opinion of his merit, and appointed him surgeon to his household.

This situation, which afforded him an opportunity of being with the ambassador, and participating in the society to be found at his table, was highly desirable for a young man; but, as his attachment to his profession was at that time unbounded, he chose to live in lodgings, in a distant part of the capital, more congenial to his habits and pursuits, and visited Lord Albemarle's family only when his assistance was required.

His acquaintance with Sir William Fordyce was quickly improved into great intimacy. They attended the same hospitals, studied together the same branches of science, under the same professors, with equal ardour and success, and frequently met to compare the notes they collected from the lectures, and to communicate their respective observations.

When Dr. Smollett visited Paris in the summer of 1750, he found an opportunity of renewing his acquaintance with his ingenious countryman, to whom he had been introduced in England, and had the satisfaction, which he took delight to remember, many a distant year, of accompanying him in some excursions to St. Cloud, Versailles, and other places in the environs of the capital of France.

After a residence of two years in Paris, during

which he attended the hospitals with diligence, and cultivated with the same attention every branch of the medical art taught in that capital, he was invited by Mr. Gordon, who was not insensible to the assiduity and improvement of his pupil, to return to Glasgow, and become a partner in his business ; a custom very common in the great towns in Scotland, where the extensiveness of the practice embraces the several branches of physic, surgery, pharmacy, and midwifery.

By the advice of his relations, which corresponded with a natural attachment to the place where he had passed his youth, and had his earliest and most endearing connections, he accepted the invitation of his preceptor and friend, and soon after left Paris, and returned to London, where he remained a few months, for the purpose of attending another course of Dr. Hunter's lectures, and taking a course of lectures on midwifery with his countryman, Dr. Smellie, who first made the practice of the obstetrical art common among the men in our island.

On his return to Glasgow, qualified by study, and accomplished by practice, he entered into partnership with Mr. Gordon, which continued, with perfect cordiality, for two years ; when his partner obtained a *diploma* from the university, and practised as a prescribing physician ; a subdivision of employment peculiar to the populous cities and more considerable provincial towns in North Britain.

On this occasion, he found it convenient, in continuing to act as a surgeon, and, enjoying almost immediately and extensively great confidence in

his practice, to assume a partner ; and he chose Mr. Hamilton, professor of anatomy, as his associate.

From this period, for many years, the narrative of his life is little more than a recital of his professional occupations, in constant recurrence, in an extensive practice among the people of Glasgow, and the surrounding country, to a great distance. But, in every period of his life, he delighted in social intercourse ; and a considerable portion of his time was now devoted to the enjoyments of amiable and polite society. His great power of sprightly wit, and playful vein of irony made his conversation be courted by a numerous and respectable circle of acquaintance. In a city enriched by commerce, and enlightened by its university, he found companions among men of science, taste, and polished manners, whose conversation afforded him a pleasing relaxation from professional labour.

When the reputation of his practice was firmly established, he married the daughter of the Rev. Mr. Simson, professor of divinity in the university ; a union founded on mutual esteem, and long and intimate acquaintance. She possessed good sense, a cultivated mind, elegant taste, and great sweetness of temper, and gentleness of manners.*

At a period long subsequent to his marriage,

* “ We had the good fortune to be received into the house of Mr. Moore, an eminent surgeon. He is a merry facetious companion, sensible and shrewd, with a considerable fund of humour, and his wife an agreeable woman, well-bred, kind, and obliging. Kindness, which I take to be the essence of good nature and humanity, is the distinguishing characteristic of the Scotch ladies in their own country.”

Expedition of Humphry Clinker.

when he had attained his fortieth year, advancing in the full career of professional prosperity, and the enjoyment of public esteem and consideration, an incident occurred, in the course of his practice, that changed his whole scheme of life, gave a wider range to the faculty of investigating the characters of mankind, and opened new prospects and pursuits to a mind naturally active and inquisitive.

In 1769, he was called by the Duchess of Hamilton, with his friend, Dr. Cullen, who then practised as a physician in Glasgow, to attend her son, George James Duke of Hamilton, afflicted with a consumptive disorder that baffled all the efforts of medicine. After a lingering illness, this amiable young nobleman died, in the fifteenth year of his age; and the melancholy task devolved on Mr. Moore of recording the extraordinary endowments of his patient, and the grief of his mother, on his tomb-stone in the family burying-place at Hamilton.

“ All the reflected dignity that shines
Through the long annals of two princely lines ;
And all that liberal nature could impart,
To charm the eye, or captivate the heart ;
With every genuine mark that could presage
Intrinsic greatness in maturer age :
A bosom glowing with fair Honour's flame,
A love of Science, and a thirst for Fame,
Adorn'd the youthful tenant of this tomb,
Torn from his country's hope in early bloom.
Whoe'er thou art, who view'st this plaintive stone,
If e'er thy soul exulted o'er a son ;
If public fame, avowing his desert,
Echo'd the praises of the partial heart ;
Though all may mourn, 'tis thou alone canst know
The piercing anguish of a parent's woe.”

The anxious care with which he attended this young nobleman, of great promise, through the whole progress of his disease, led to a more intimate connection with his family; and when his mother determined, soon after, that his brother, Douglas Duke of Hamilton, of a delicate constitution, should travel with a gentleman, who, to a knowledge of medicine, added an acquaintance with the continent, he was engaged as his travelling companion.

In the spring of the following year, previous to his going abroad with the Duke of Hamilton, as his physician, he obtained a *diploma* of doctor of medicine from the university of Glasgow,—a distinction which he had long merited, but had declined, while it imposed a limitation on the range of his extensive practice.

When the time arrived which completed the course of the Duke of Hamilton's education at home, the plan of his residence abroad was arranged by his guardians; and, in 1772, the traveller and his companion, with a suitable attendance, proceeded to the continent, and spent five years in France, Switzerland, Germany, and Italy, residing chiefly, in their travels through these countries, in Paris, Geneva, Berlin, Dresden, Vienna, Rome, Naples, and Venice, and making excursions, occasionally, in the neighbourhood of those places.

The traveller was fortunate in the choice of a physician, whose acuteness and sagacity qualified him to assist his observations on the countries which they visited; and his physician was fortunate in accompanying a traveller, whose high rank, liberal curiosity, and engaging manners, procured him ad-

mission into the highest circles, and the best society in the capitals where they resided.*

In the course of various journeys through the most interesting countries of Europe, Dr. Moore noted, with classical reverence, the stupendous monuments of ancient art; surveyed, with discriminating precision, the peculiar features of local scenery, and found ample scope for the investigation of national character, in conversing with men, and observing their manners, passions, prejudices, employments, and political and religious institutions. Of the various occurrences, incidental conversations, characteristic anecdotes, descriptive sketches, and political reflections, he kept a regular journal, drawn up in a style that shews the force and vivacity of his mind, and the skill to give connection and animation to miscellaneous observations.

In 1778, he accompanied the Duke of Hamilton,

* Douglas Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, the representative of the illustrious families of Douglas and Hamilton, was the youngest son of James Duke of Hamilton, by Elizabeth, second daughter of John Gunning, Esq^r of Castle-Coote, in the county of Roscommon, Ireland, distinguished by her beauty and personal accomplishments. He was born in 1756, and succeeded his brother, George James, in 1769. In 1778, he married Elizabeth, sister to Sir Peter Burrell, afterwards Lord Gwydir, the Countess of Beverley, and the Duchess of Northumberland. Their union was less happy than the personal excellencies and amiable virtues of the Duchess gave reason to expect. She obtained a divorce from him in 1794, and was, soon after, married to the Marquis of Exeter. He died in 1800. His mother was married, in 1759, to Colonel Campbell, eldest son of General Campbell, of Mamore, heir-apparent of Archibald Duke of Argyle, at whose death, in 1761, he succeeded to the title, and was succeeded by his son in 1770, when the Duchess of Hamilton became Duchess of Argyle.

on his return to England; and the connection between the traveller and the physician, that had subsisted during a residence of five years in foreign countries, uninterrupted by any casual disagreement or misunderstanding, terminated, with professions of everlasting gratitude and attachment, on the part of his Grace, and demonstrations of condescending favour and kindness, on the part of his noble family.

He now removed his family from Glasgow to London, and fixed his residence in Clifford-street, where he became a candidate, among others, for employment, as a physician, in the metropolis, and was consulted by his particular friends, without practising the customary arts of recommendation, to which he had an irreconcilable aversion.

In 1779, he commenced his literary career, and gave to the world the first portion of the journal of his travels on the continent, under the appropriate title of *A View of Society and Manners in France, Switzerland, and Germany*, in 2 vols. 8vo, which was received with general approbation, both abroad and at home, and completely established his reputation as an instructive and entertaining journalist of travels.

The epistolary plan of the journal designates, in the series of the letters, without dates, the route of the travellers from Paris to Geneva, Vevay, Bern, Basil, Strasbourg, Manheim, Frankfort, Cassel, Brunswick, Hanover, Potsdam, Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, Presburg, return to Vienna. Of this series of letters, a large portion is allotted to Paris, Geneva, and Vienna.

In 1781, he published a continuation of the

journal, in two additional volumes, entitled, *A View of Society and Manners in Italy*, which fulfilled the expectations of the public, and increased the reputation he had acquired by the preceding volumes.

The epistolary plan is followed in the continuation of the journal; and the letters trace the progress of the travellers from Vienna to Venice, Padua, the Po, Ferrara, Bologna, Ancona, Loretto, Spoleto, Rome, Naples, return to Rome, Florence, Milan, Chamberry, return to Paris. Of this series of letters, a disproportionate share is allotted to the history of Venice.

In 1785, he published his *Medical Sketches, in Two Parts*, 8vo, dedicated to his friend, William Lock, Esq., of Norbury-Park, the only performance in the line of his profession which proceeded from his pen; except an *Essay on Pulmonary Consumption*, printed as a letter from Naples (LXII) in his *View of Society and Manners in Italy*.

The sketches which form the *first part* of the work furnish an explanation of the processes continually carried on in the animal economy, essential to life. The *second part* consists of observations and rules relative to the nature and treatment of fevers, originally written for a near relation, who had the health of a detachment of the foot guards, ordered to America, intrusted to his care, at a very early period of life.* The work is

* Among the instances of a remarkable species of consumption mentioned in the *second part*, the case of George James Duke of Hamilton is recollected with tender sensibility. "One, in particular, from various circumstances, made an indelible impression

deliberately written in familiar language, divested of technical verbosity, and forms a valuable addition to the stock of popular medical treatises in the possession of the public.

Having obtained a high degree of reputation for his lively and faithful representation of foreign characters, as a journalist of travels, he was tempted to exercise his distinguished power of delineating from real life, and his talent for humour, in the representation of domestic characters, as a novelist, and, in 1786, published his *Zeluco ; Various Views of Human Nature, taken from Life and Manners, Foreign and Domestic*, in 2 vols. 8vo, which met with extraordinary success, and obtained for him a distinguished place among the legitimate writers of modern romance.

The story of *Zeluco* possesses all the requisites of this kind of writing, knowledge of human nature, invention, and the representation of real life. It is written with a laudable design, to correct the errors of education. The history of the life and adventures of the only son of a noble and wealthy family in Sicily, shews the fatal effects of uncontrolled passions, and maternal indulgence. With every advantage of person, birth, and fortune, and

impression on my memory, the case of a youth of fifteen years of age, distinguished by more brilliant personal advantages and nobler endowments of mind than I ever saw united at that period of life. These particulars are foreign, no doubt, to the purpose of a work of this kind, and will, perhaps, be criticised as improper—let them. At the distance of sixteen years, I have never yet, without some such impropriety, been able to mention this young man ;

“ By me, so heaven will have it, always mourn’d,
And always honour’d.”

united in marriage to a beautiful and accomplished woman, he is represented as miserable through the whole of his life, owing to the selfishness and depravity of his heart. To relieve the mind, in tracing the windings of vice, and contemplating the disgusting features of villany, the story is varied by scenes of humour and pleasantry, and embellished with picturesque sketches, and interesting traits of character. The principal personage of the story, utterly devoid of principle, perfidious, and profligate, is unrivalled by any character that has been invented by the writers of prosaic or poetical fiction, except Dr. Smollett's Ferdinand Count Fathom, his legitimate predecessor, and Lord Byron's Childe Harold, of whom he is the professed prototype.*

His long residence abroad, and his accession to the enlightened society of London, had not diminished his affection for his native country, and his relations, and the early friends of his choice; and, in the summer of this year, he undertook a journey into Scotland, and passed some time at Glasgow, where he received the respect and attention of his fellow-citizens, and the gratulations of the companions of his youth, with peculiar satisfaction.†

* "Had I proceeded with this poem, this character would have deepened as he drew to the close; for the outline which I once meant to fill up for him was, with some exceptions, the sketch of a modern Timon, perhaps a poetical Zeluco."

Preface to Childe Harold.

† His eldest son, a captain in the army, afterwards so much distinguished by his military services, had been recently elected representative in parliament for the Lanark district of boroughs, on the interest of the Duke of Hamilton.

On the occasion of his visit to Hamilton-house, at this time, he wrote a poetical epistle, descriptive of the scenery of the river Clyde, of which the following lines are remarkably picturesque.

“ High Chatelherault,* whose grateful brow commands
A lengthened sweep of variegated lands,
From Tinto, down whose vast majestic side
Flows the first streamlet of commercial Clyde,
To haughty Lomond of stupendous make,
Proud of his islands and his beauteous lake.

* * * * *

Capricious Clyde, how various in his course ;
At Cora† rushing with a frantic force,
He hurries headlong o’er the lofty rock,
The wounded waters shrieking from the shock :
Then swiftly gliding by impending groves,
Rich with Pomona’s gifts‡—at length he roves
By princely Hamilton’s high-cultur’d plains,
To greet the Lady of those fair domains ;||
Whose judging eye each native charm has graced
With all the polished elegance of taste.
Mild as her aspect, as her soul serene,
Pure as her life, which never knew a stain ;
Through these smooth fields, unruffled, calm, and slow,
Clyde’s limpid streams, dispensing blessings, flow,
(Blessings by every grateful tongue confest),
With Heaven’s bright image shining in his breast.”

The year following is remarkable for the commencement of his correspondence with the cele-

* The towers and pavilions of Chatelherault stand on high ground about a mile distant from and in front of Hamilton-house.

† Cora Lynn. The Clyde at this place falls, in distinct precipices, from a height of fifty yards ; but in land-floods the projection is so violent that the swelled river throws itself, in a connected sheet, over the whole at once ; and the water is so broken by the fall upon a rocky bottom, that it rises in fume, like the smoke of a furnace, almost as high as the place from whence it falls.

‡ The numerous orchards on the banks of the Clyde.

|| The Duchess of Hamilton was then residing at Hamilton-house.

brated Robert Burns, the Ayrshire Ploughman, as it was the means of procuring for the public an interesting account of the early life of that extraordinary man, from his own pen. Admiring the strength and originality of his genius, he interested himself, among other men distinguished in the republic of letters, in promoting the subscription for a new edition of his poems, undertaken, for his benefit, at Edinburgh.

In a letter from the poet to his patroness, Mrs. Dunlop, of Dunlop, Dr. Moore's friend and relation, dated Edinburgh, 15th January 1787, he acknowledges the services of her friend, in terms of high respect for his character.

" I wished to have written to Dr. Moore before I wrote to you ; but though every day since I received yours of December 30, the idea, the wish to write him, has constantly pressed on my thoughts, yet I could not for my soul set about it. I knew his fame and character, and I am one of " the sons " of little men." To write him a mere matter-of-fact affair, like a merchant's order, would be disgracing the little character I have ; and to write to the author of *The View of Society and Manners* a letter of sentiment, I declare every artery runs cold at the thought. I shall try, however, to write to him to-morrow or next day. His kind interposition in my behalf I have already experienced, as a gentleman waited on me the other day, on the part of Lord Eglinton, with ten guineas by way of subscription, for two copies of my next edition."

The correspondence between them commenced with the following letter from the poet to the traveller.

“ Mrs. Dunlop has been so kind as to send me extracts of letters she has had from you, where you do the rustic bard the honour of noticing him and his works. Those who have felt the anxieties and solitudes of authorship, can only know what pleasure it gives to be noticed in such a manner by judges of the first character. Your criticisms, Sir, I receive with reverence; only I am sorry they mostly came too late; a peccant passage or two, that I would certainly have altered, were gone to the press.

“ The hope to be admired for ages is, in by far the greater part of those even who are authors of repute, an unsubstantial dream. For my part, my first ambition was, and still my strongest wish is, to please my compeers, the rustic inmates of the hamlet, while ever-changing language and manners shall allow me to be relished and understood. I am very willing to admit that I have some poetic abilities; and as few, if any, writers, either moral or poetical, are intimately acquainted with the classes of mankind among whom I have chiefly mingled, I may have seen men and manners in a different phasis from what is common, which may assist originality of thought. Still I know very well the novelty of my character has by far the greatest share in the learned and polite notice I have lately had; and in a language where Pope and Churchill have raised the laugh, and Shenstone and Gray drawn the tear; where Thomson and Beattie have painted the landscape, and Lyttleton and Collins described the heart, I am not vain enough to hope for distinguished poetic fame.” *

* Burns's Works, Vol. II, p. 51.

The homage paid by the "rustic bard" to the philosophic traveller received a prompt return, in the following letter, dated Clifford Street, January 23, 1787, with a particular reference to the poet's estimate of his own character.

"I have just received your letter, by which I find I have reason to complain of my friend, Mrs. Dunlop, for transmitting to you extracts from my letters to her, by much too freely and too carelessly written for your perusal. I must forgive her, however, in regard to her good intention, as you will forgive me, I hope, for the freedom I use with certain expressions, in consideration of my admiration of the poems in general. If I may judge of the author's disposition from his works, with all the other good qualities of a poet, he has not the *irritable* temper ascribed to that race of men by one of their own number, whom you have the happiness to resemble in ease and *curious felicity* of expression. Indeed, the poetical beauties, however original and brilliant, and lavishly scattered, are not all I admire in your works; the love of your native country, that feeling sensibility to all the objects of humanity, and the independent spirit which breathes through the whole, give me a most favourable impression of the poet, and have made me often regret that I did not see the poems, the certain effect of which would have been my seeing the author last summer, when I was longer in Scotland than I have been for many years."

The poet's reply to his "revered" correspondent, dated Edinburgh, 15th February, is expressed in the language of glowing gratitude.

"Pardon my seeming neglect in delaying so long

to acknowledge the honour you have done me in your kind notice of me, January 23. Not many months ago, I knew no other employment than following the plough, nor could boast any thing higher than a distant acquaintance with a country clergyman. Mere greatness never embarrasses me : I have nothing to ask from the great, and I do not fear their judgment ; but genius, polished by learning, and at its proper point of elevation in the eye of the world, this of late I frequently meet with, and tremble at its approach. I scorn the affectation of seeming modesty to cover self-conceit. That I have some merit I do not deny ; but I see with frequent wringings of heart, that the novelty of my character, and the honest national prejudice of my countrymen, have borne me to a height altogether untenable to my ability."

The traveller almost immediately returned an answer, 28th February, announcing an appropriate present to the poet of a copy of his *View of Society and Manners*.

" Your letter of the 15th gave me a great deal of pleasure. I am glad to perceive that you disdain the nauseous affectation of decrying your own merits as a poet ; an affectation which is displayed with most ostentation by those who have the greatest share of self-conceit, and which only adds undeceiving falsehood to disgusting vanity. For you to deny the merit of your poems would be arraigning the fixed opinion of the public.

" As the new edition of my *View of Society* is not yet ready, I have sent you the former edition, which I beg you will accept as a small mark of my esteem.

“ I am happy to hear that your subscription is so ample, and shall rejoice at every piece of good fortune that befalls you ; for you are a very great favourite in my family, and this is a higher compliment than perhaps you are aware of. It includes almost all the professions, and, of course, is a proof that your writings are adapted to various tastes and situations. My youngest son, who is at Winchester school, writes to me, that he is translating some stanzas of your *Hallowe'en* into Latin verse for the benefit of his comrades. This union of taste partly proceeds, no doubt, from the cement of Scottish partiality with which they are all somewhat tinctured. Even *your translator*, who left Scotland too early in life for recollection, is not without it.”*

On the occasion of receiving a present of a copy of his book from the author, the poet, instead of “ beating the coverts of imagination for metaphors of gratitude,” contents himself with returning his thanks, and expressing his concurrence in the opinion that was entertained of the *View of Society and Manners* by the world, on its first appearance.

“ I thank you, Sir, for the honour you have done me, and to my latest hour will warmly remember it. To be highly pleased with your book is what I have in common with the world, but to regard these volumes as a mark of the author’s

* Of the favourable opinion of the poet entertained by the members of Dr. Moore’s family, there is a remarkable instance in Dr. Currie’s dedication of his works to Captain Graham Moore, of the Royal Navy.—“ When you were stationed on our coast, about twelve years ago, you first recommended to my notice the poems of the Ayrshire Ploughman.”

friendly esteem, is a still more supreme gratification." *

On the appearance of the new edition of his poems, Dr. Moore took occasion to address a letter to the poet, of criticism and advice.

" Some of the poems you have added in this last edition are beautiful, particularly *The Winter Night*, the *Address to Edinburgh*, *Green grows the Rashes*, and the two songs immediately following, the latter of which was exquisite. By the way, I imagine you have a peculiar talent for such compositions, which you ought to indulge.† No kind of poetry demands more delicacy or higher polishing. Horace is more admired on account of his *Odes* than all his other writings. But nothing new is added equal to your *Vision* and *Cottar's Saturday Night*. In these are united fine imagery, natural and pathetic description, with sublimity of language and thought. It is evident that you already possess a great variety of expression, and a great command of the English language: You ought, therefore, to deal more sparingly for the future in the provincial dialect:—Why should you, by using *that*, limit the number of your admirers to those who understand the Scottish, when you can extend it to all persons of taste who understand the English language? In my opinion, you should plan some larger work than any you have as yet attempted. I mean, reflect upon some proper subject, and arrange the plan in your mind, without

* Burns's Works, Vol. II, p. 78.

† The songs which compose the fourth volume of his works will bear ample testimony to the accuracy of Dr. Moore's judgment.

beginning to execute any part of it till you have studied most of the best English poets, and read a little more of history. The Greek and Roman stories you can read in some abridgment, and soon become master of the most brilliant facts which must highly delight a poetical mind. You *should* also, and very soon *may*, become master of the heathen mythology, to which there are everlasting allusions in all the poets, and which in itself is highly fanciful. What will require to be studied with more attention, is modern history; that is, the history of France and Great Britain from the beginning of Henry VII's reign. I know very well you have a mind capable of attaining knowledge by a shorter process than is commonly used, and I am certain you are capable of making a better use of it, when attained, than is generally done.

“ I understand you intend to take a farm, and make the useful and respectable business of husbandry your chief occupation: This, I hope, will not prevent your making addresses to the Nine Ladies who have shewn you such favour, one of whom visited you in the *auld clay biggin*. Virgil, before you, proved to the world that there is nothing in the business of husbandry inimical to poetry; and I sincerely hope that you may afford an example of a good poet being a successful farmer.”*

On his return to Ayrshire, enabled by the profits arising from the sale of his poems to devote the remainder of his life to agriculture, he shewed Dr. Moore his particular respect, by addressing a letter

* Burns's Works, Vol. II, p. 89.

to him, dated Mauchline, August 2, 1787, giving a history of his life up to the period of his writing.

“ I have taken a whim to give you a history of myself. My name has made some little noise in this country : You have done me the honour to interest yourself very warmly in my behalf ; and I think a faithful account of what character of man I am, and how I came by that character, may, perhaps, amuse you in an idle moment.”*

The narrative is incorporated into the ample and elegant biography of the unfortunate poet, and gives the incidents of his early life, and unfolds the peculiarities of his character, with all the careless vigour and open sincerity of his mind.

From 1786 to 1793, Dr. Moore was quiescent as an author. In the intervening period, three large editions of his *Zeluco* passed the press, and the circulation of his *View of Society and Manners* was extended by a French translation, and an Irish edition.

At this period, the French revolution powerfully excited the sympathies of the people of this country. A natural and benevolent joy pervaded all ranks at the overthrow of the old despotism of France, so contrary to the free constitution of Britain. Dr. Moore, from his early years, had been so favourably impressed with the affability, ease, and gaiety of the French, that he could not but regret the oppression of their government, and the inequality of their laws. In common with all men of liberal ideas, venerating liberty in general, presuming that French liberty would render its votaries happy, imputing the aggressions of France to the

* Burns's Works, Vol. I, p. 35.

corrupt ambition of a court, and, anticipating tranquillity from her renovated state, he rejoiced at a change that foreboded peace to Britain and to Europe.*

While he anticipated, with generous pleasure, a new and happy order of things in France, the course of events conducted him, in a short space, to witness, with horror and detestation, acts of extreme violence and injustice, and enormous crimes perpetrated by the subverters of despotism, in the name of liberty.

The connections which he chiefly cultivated, his principles of freedom, and his intimate acquaintance with French manners, procured him an invitation to accompany the Earl of Lauderdale in an excursion into France, for the improvement of his health, and for surveying the theatre of the revolution, estimating the characters of its founders, from personal knowledge, and witnessing the proceedings of the National Convention, upon which the fate of France and the tranquillity of Europe seemed to depend.

The preparations for the journey, at this critical period, with a companion, distinguished by the acuteness and depth of his understanding, and the purity and firmness of his constitutional principles, were made with alacrity; and the travellers set out

* One statesman, of the highest talents, was found, who dissented from the patriotic and philanthropic sentiments of his countrymen on this great event, and predicted, with powerful sagacity and eloquence, the consequences which ensued from the erection of a gigantic power in the middle of Europe, that threatened the peace of the world.—See Burke's Reflections, &c.

terminating in one dreadful catastrophe, interspersed with reflections, equally acute and solid, and enlivened by sketches of individual and national character, sometimes heightened by pathetic touches, and delicate strokes of humour. As might be expected, from his philosophic moderation and enlightened philanthropy, he is not inclined with any intemperate warmth on the side of the aristocracy of France; but he does ample justice to the mildness, the unambitious, unoffending character of the king, and is the able and temperate advocate of the queen. Of the origin and design of the insurrection of the 10th of August, so much controverted, he speaks very doubtfully, at the time the event was recent, but seems inclined to believe that it was not the consequence of any regular or digested plan, on either side, but rather a fermentation set on foot by mischievous individuals, who were prepared to take advantages of the catastrophe, whatever it might be. The details of the carnage in the prisons of Paris on the 2d and 3d of September, and the trials and executions of the different victims of democratic tyranny, excite pity and indignation more strikingly from the manner in which they are conveyed.

While the crimes and calamities produced by the French revolution were represented by a multitude of writers as a warning to Britain, he projected a retrospective enumeration of some of the circumstances which tended to hasten, and are reckoned among the remote causes of the revolution, in a regular digested narrative, which might be useful to his age and country, and published in 1795, *A View of the Causes and Progress of the*

French Revolution, in 2 vols. 8vo, dedicated to the Duke of Devonshire, in a strain of exquisite delicacy.

As the surest means of avoiding evil of any kind is by discovering the causes which lead to it, this review of the history of France from the reign of Henry IV to the execution of Louis XVI, was regarded as a very seasonable publication, and, on many accounts, deserving of applause.

At a period when prejudices operated with unusual acrimony, when two sets of men reciprocally imputed to each other political opinions, which neither entertained, merely from viewing a particular object in different lights, he was accused by both parties of partiality in his account of the French revolution; an imputation of which he took occasion to acquit himself in addressing his work to the Duke of Devonshire, by the following declaration of his principles.

“ It is very difficult to write on the subject of the French revolution, without being accused of partiality. I endeavoured to avoid this imputation in my Journal; but a very near connection of yours told me that when she was abroad, those who are called *Democrats*, and had read the book, declared that, with other faults, it had an intolerable leaning towards aristocracy. Those, on the other hand, who are denominated *Aristocrates*, were of opinion that its greatest fault was a strong bias to democracy. In the writer’s mind, however, there is no more inclination to either, than is to be found in the constitution of Great Britain, as it was established by the efforts of your Grace’s ancestor, in conjunction with those of other patriots, at the revolution in the

year 1688. The present work has been executed in the same disposition, and will be exposed to the same censure."

It was not, indeed, probable, that so cool, dispassionate, and sensible an observer as Dr. Moore, should be a bigot to either party; and those who are not such themselves will be satisfied with the candour and impartiality of his representation of the French revolution, in its earlier stages and subsequent changes, through scenes which have interested the curiosity, and agitated the feelings, of all Europe.

The scope and tendency of the work may be collected from the concluding paragraph, which conveys the reflection of a liberal and enlightened mind on an awful and instructive political convulsion.

"The French revolution exhibits at once the mischiefs that attend the abuse of power, and those that attend the abuse of liberty; affording a warning to sovereigns, not only against direct acts of cruelty, but also against that lavishness of the public money, which necessarily leads to the oppression of the people, and rouses general discontent and indignation. It affords likewise a warning to the subjects of every free government against all licentious disregard of law, all attack on the rights of any class of their fellow-citizens, or the ascertained prerogatives of the sovereign, as every unprovoked attack of that nature tends to render all men's rights insecure,—leads to the horrors of anarchy, and generally terminates in the destruction of that liberty they wish to preserve."

Although Dr. Moore had invariably represented the crimes and atrocities produced by the revolu-

tion in France as infixing a stain on the national character that no future prosperity can efface, yet he was accused of partiality towards the French, in his comparison of the barbarities committed in our civil wars with those committed in France, in "A Letter to Dr. Moore on his Defence of British Humanity against the Calumny of a Member of the French Convention," 8vo, 1794. Against this anonymous accusation, the only attack he experienced from the press, he attempted no defence, by enumerating all the bad actions that our history can produce, which, being rarely attended with any circumstance of cruelty, are obliterated by the instances enumerated by the Letter-writer, of murder or massacre, by popular fury, with circumstances of inhumanity that leave all comparison behind.

While, the inexhaustible subject of the French revolution employed many masterly pens in discussing it, both generally and particularly,* Dr. Moore left the historical deduction of its causes and consequences for the examination of the great book of life, and the illustration of the maxims of morality, by the portraiture of domestic characters, and published, in 1796, EDWARD: *Various Views of Human Nature, taken from Life and Manners, chiefly in England*, in 2 vols. 8vo, a work, in no ordinary degree, interesting and instructive.

In his first work of this kind is depicted the character of an accomplished villain, which, nevertheless, is not to be contemplated without some compunctious visitings of pity. In the history of *Ed-*

* The "Reflections" of Mr. Burke, and the "*Vindiciæ Gallicæ*" of Sir James Mackintosh, were distinguished, on opposite sides, by the attractions of superior ability and eloquence.

ward is delineated a contrast to *Zeluco*, the most forcible that can be imagined. While the hero of the former work practises every vice that debases man, the principal personage of this novel is a perfect model of a virtuous youth.

Edward is a foundling, originally brought up in a workhouse. At a village where he was sent for the recovery of his health, under the care of a nurse, he is found by Mrs. Barnet, an excellent and amiable character, whose commiseration he excites. Her benevolence induces her to recommend him to the attention of her husband, a character of great singularity. He is taken into their family, and educated at their expense. His good qualities become progressively more prominent and impressive, so that the views of his education are enlarged, and he is qualified, by the liberality of his patrons, and his own merits and accomplishments, to act a conspicuous part on the theatre of fashionable life. By a natural series of events he is brought to the discovery of his connections, who prove to be individuals of high birth and fortune. He is finally married to the woman of his affections, a beautiful and accomplished heiress, of whom his widowed mother is the guardian, and who, in his humbler fortune, had given him the preference to suitors highly recommended by rank, fortune, and merit. The subordinate personages of the story, who assist in its developement, are so numerous, and so diversified by their peculiarities, that it may be considered rather as an exhibition of various views of human nature, in various characters, than a particular history of *Edward*, who is often scarcely visible. It is evidently designed to exhibit mankind in their different tempers and sin-

gularities, and the characters of Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Temple; Mr. Wormwood, Lord Torpid, Lady Lofty, Sir Carnaby Shadow, Sir Mathew Mawkish, and Colonel Snug, evince deep and just observation on men and manners. The same excellency of understanding, vivid and distinct perception of beauty and deformity, prompt and natural wit, and pleasant elliptical vein of humour which characterize *Zeluco*, are everywhere recognisable; and ample opportunities are found, in the progress of *Edward's* advancement, of representing, with discrimination and delicacy, and obviously with moral views, the circumstances, fashions, and manners of the superior circles of society. The work is exceedingly well written throughout, and the moral tendency is unexceptionably good; yet there is, perhaps, no injustice in considering *Edward* as inferior, in spirit, energy, and invention, to the romance of *Zeluco*.

In 1797, he undertook the office of a biographer, and furnished his booksellers,* at their solicitation, with an account of the life of Dr. Smollett, to accompany a collective edition of his miscellaneous writings, printed under the title of *The Works of Tobias Smollett, M. D., with Memoirs of his Life, to which is prefixed a View of the Commencement and Progress of Romance, by John Moore, M. D., in 8 vols. 8vo.*†

* Messrs. T. Cadell, junior, and W. Davies, successors to Mr. T. Cadell, the publisher, with Mr. A. Strahan, of the *Views of Society, Medical Sketches, Zeluco, and Edward*. The *Journal, View of the Causes of the French Revolution, and Mordaunt*, were printed for Messrs. G. G. and J. Robinson.

† This collection, somewhat differently arranged, was formed

It was fortunate for Dr. Smollett, that the office of memorialist of his life was undertaken by one who knew him well, and who had such qualifications for the perfect execution of the task which was imposed upon him, as, perhaps, no other man possessed in an equal degree. As his predecessor, I am under no apprehension of being charged with undue partiality towards him by those who know my disposition. I estimate as I ought the value of his approbation of my endeavours to award Dr. Smollett the justice which his contemporaries denied him; and, from higher motives than vanity, I am happy to perceive the remarks of so judicious a critic as Dr. Moore, so frequently concur with, and strengthen my own. One remark may be ventured upon here. Though Dr. Moore had the advantage of writing from personal knowledge, yet he has few new facts to embellish his narrative, and has been less successful than might be expected in bringing us acquainted with the conversation, and conduct of Dr. Smollett, on common and familiar occasions. But as the undertaking was unpremeditated, and not of his own choosing, he may be supposed to have employed the materials which were at hand, rather than such as might have been provided by diligence and premeditation. In this situation, the task that was left him, of giving an elegant and instructive memoir of Dr. Smollett, has been executed, in many respects, with much felicity of performance. What use he has made of my narrative is obvious, as well

ed on the plan of the collection of Smollett's "Miscellaneous Works, with Memoirs of his Life and Writings," by the writer of this narrative, printed by Mundell and Son, Edinburgh, in 6 vols. 8vo, 1796.

as what is entirely his own. As a memorialist, he has not always evinced sufficient diligence in supplying the deficiencies of his predecessor; but, as a critic, though his opinions may be sometimes suspected to be erroneous, he displays his taste and judgment.

The preliminary sketch of those variations of manners in Europe which gave rise to that particular species of writing for which Dr. Smollett was so much distinguished, comprehends some very early customs and institutions. This dissertation is ably executed, and may be regarded as a judicious abstract of the opinions of Bishop Percy, Mr. Warton, and Bishop Hurd,* on the commencement and progress of romance;† but it has few pretensions to novelty of thought or extent of research, and might with equal propriety be prefixed to the works of any other novelist, as to those of Dr. Smollett.‡

After a short interval of relaxation from literary exertion, he renewed his commerce with the press, and published in 1800, MORDAUNT: *Sketches of*

* See "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry," "History of English Poetry," and "Letters on Chivalry and Romance."

† Dr. Moore has overlooked a work with a similar title, not unworthy of attention,—*"The Progress of Romance through Times, Countries, and Manners, &c. in a Course of Evening Conversations, by Clara Reeve, Author of the English Baron,"* in 2 vols. 8vo, 1785. It has also been overlooked by Mr. Dunlop, the able and indefatigable historian of "Fiction," in reviewing the labours of his predecessors.

‡ The preliminary dissertation has been transferred from this edition of the works of Dr. Smollett, which has not been reprinted, to the collection of his works, as an appropriate introduction to his novels, with his character of Smollett, to follow the characters of Richardson and Fielding.

Life, Characters, and Manners, in various Countries, including the Memoirs of a French Lady of Quality, in 3 vols. 8vo ; a kind of novel, in the form of letters, rich in the knowledge of life, and embellished with interesting traits of character.

The work is not distinguished by an artful contexture of story, a fulness of dramatic incident, or an epistolary correspondence, characteristically supported, relating to a common action. Of that species of dramatic narrative which requires peculiar versatility of powers, which was dignified and pathetic under the management of Richardson, and correctly humorous in the hands of Smollett, there is no advantageous example ; yet the tissue of letters from different persons furnishes abundant materials of instruction and entertainment.

Mordaunt, an accomplished young gentleman, gives an account of his travels on the continent, in a series of letters, dated from Vevay, to his friend, Colonel Sommers, in England. These letters, which occupy the first part of the work, contain the sketches of life, character, and manners in different parts of Europe. There is scarcely any novelty in the various reflections which occur, but they possess intrinsic merit, and are marked with a “ learned spirit of human dealing.” There is almost in every incident that is introduced an appearance of the strongest probability, and the respective manners of the various countries are faithfully delineated. The story of the French lady of quality is related with affecting simplicity, and displays, in very lively colours, the vicissitudes and atrocities of the French revolution. The remainder of the work contains letters between the Countess of Deanport,

an artful and profligate woman, and Mr. Grindill, an unprincipled adventurer; Miss Clifford, the heroine of the story, and Lady Diana Franklin, the amiable Mentor of Miss Clifford; *Mordaunt*, after his arrival in England, and Colonel Sommers. The portraits of the correspondents are drawn, in their letters to each other, with force and discrimination. In the character of Miss Clifford, who, after many obstacles, is united to *Mordaunt*, there is a noble but chaste freedom of outline, which might have been more highly finished. The specimen of conjugal affection and domestic happiness in Colonel and Mrs. Sommers is highly gratifying to the virtuous mind; but in the character of *Mordaunt* there is a dash of libertinism which abates the admiration of ideal excellence. In delineating the subordinate characters, Lord Deanport and Mr. Darnley supply the contrast of a conceited nobleman and a sensible commoner; and of Travers, the friend of *Mordaunt*, the transient introduction is to be regretted. Although this novel contains many lively and correct sketches of national manners, and many well-drawn portraits of fashionable characters, which shew a masterly acquaintance with the science of the world, yet it displays not, in any considerable degree, the spirit, the ingenuity, or the contrivance which distinguish the novel of *Zeluco*.

This was the last publication Dr. Moore gave to the world. A life honourably and usefully spent in the liberal pursuits of his profession, the occupations of elegant literature, and the practice of the social and relative duties, was rapidly drawing to its termination.

Before this period, the general vigour of his con-

stitution, beyond his years, was declining progressively; but he continued to exert the powers of his mind in conversation and in writing, with unabated vigour and vivacity.

The state of his health, from this time, declined almost daily; and, as the unavoidable inconveniencies of protracted life subdued his strength, he manifested a pious submission to the common lot of man, founded on the Christian hope of immortality, and found every alleviation of bodily decay which a husband and a father can participate, in the affectionate assiduities, and tender solitudes of his family.

Anticipating the advantages of a change of air, and the quiet of retirement in the country, he removed to Richmond, where his strength sunk gradually, and he expired, with perfect composure, on the 21st of January 1802, in the 73d year of his age.

By his wife, who survived the loss she pre-eminently lamented many years, and died at Cadogan Terrace, near London, March 25, 1820, in her 86th year, he had a daughter, unmarried, and five sons, John, James, Graham, Francis, and Charles, heirs of his virtues and talents, who, in different professions,* have contributed to the advancement of the honour, and the welfare of their country.

Of his eldest son, the brilliant achievements in almost every quarter of the globe, belong to general history, and remain testimonials of his talents, and of his heroism. Early in life, he entered into the army, and attained, by subordinate gradations, the

* "My family," he observes, in his correspondence with Burns, "includes almost all the professions." See p. xxi.

colonelcy of the 52d regiment of foot, and the rank of lieutenant-general, in 1805. He resided on the continent, for some time, with the duke of Hamilton and his father,* and, in 1786, represented the Lanark district of boroughs, in parliament. In consideration of his distinguished services in Corsica,† the West Indies, Holland, and Egypt, he received the honour of knighthood, and the order of the Bath. He was appointed commander-in-chief of the British forces in Spain, and fell, in the moment of victory, at Corunna, 16th January 1809, universally lamented by the country which he sincerely loved, and which he faithfully served.‡

* The portraits of Dr. Moore and his son appear on the same canvass with the duke, in the large picture at Hamilton-house, painted by Gavin Hamilton, at Rome. All the spirit of Dr. Moore's portrait is preserved in an excellent drawing and engraving by Mr. Lizars.

† In the character of *Mordaunt*, who is present at the siege of Calvi, Dr. Moore takes occasion to mention the gallantry of his son, who conducted the assault, with an evident allusion to the capriciousness of Sir Gilbert Elliot, the viceroy.

“ It has been the fate of this officer, though a young man, to conduct two assaults, and to prove successful in both. Highly esteemed by his brother-officers, beloved by the soldiers, and enjoying the confidence of the general, he had the misfortune not to please the viceroy; and in consequence of a representation from whom, to the surprise of every body, and of none more than the commander of the troops, he was recalled from his situation in Corsica. This seemed the more extraordinary, because, independent of the cool intrepidity, zeal for the service, and the professional talents he had so eminently displayed, he is of a modest unassuming character, humane, of scrupulous integrity, incapable of adulation, and more solicitous to deserve than to receive praise.”

‡ Among the memorials of his fame may be reckoned the monument erected to his memory by the inhabitants of Glasgow, the place of his birth.

His second son is a member of the corporation of surgeons in London, and sustains his father's literary name by various esteemed publications, in the line of his profession, written, generally, in a tone of respect towards those who differ with him in opinion, and, in many passages, in a strain of urbanity and humour similar to that which pervades the writings of his father.* As the faithful executor of the fame of his heroic brother, he published, in 1809, "A Narrative of the Campaign of the British Army in Spain, commanded by his Excellency Sir John Moore, K. B., authenticated by Official Papers and Original Letters," 4to; a tribute of affection and justice to the excellencies and virtues of the commander-in-chief, which reflects equal credit on his understanding and his heart.

His third son entered early into the navy as a midshipman, was appointed a lieutenant in 1790, and a post-captain in 1794. On board of the *Me-lampus* of 36 guns, he engaged with and took the *Ambuscade* of 40, October 12, 1798, one of the French squadron destined to invade Ireland. In 1812, he was promoted to the rank of rear-admiral; in 1815, created a knight of the Bath; in 1818, appointed one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and in 1820, chief naval commander on the Mediterranean station.

His fourth son, educated for a diplomatic office, acted as private secretary to the Duke of Leeds,

* "Essay on the *Materia Medica*, in which the Theories of the late Dr. Cullen are considered, together with some opinions of Mr. Hunter," 8vo, 1792.

"History of the Practice of Vaccination," 8vo,

"History of the Small Pox," 8vo.

when he filled an high official situation, and has been successively in the secretary of state and war-office departments.

His fifth son, destined for the profession of the law, was entered a member of Lincoln's Inn, and has been called to the bar.

His excellent mother lived not to witness the firm establishment of his well-merited celebrity, and the distinguished consideration of his family, but died many years before him. His only brother died young. He survived both his favourite sisters, the one married to George Mackintosh, Esq. of Dunchattan, a respectable merchant in Glasgow, and the other to the Rev. Dr. William Porteous, one of the ministers of that city, formerly minister of Whitburn, a gentleman distinguished for the firmness of his attachment to the principles of the Presbyterian policy, the energy of his eloquence, and the activity of his benevolence.

Since his death, no posthumous publication, bearing the indubitable impression of his sound sagacity and good sense, has issued from the press,* though it is supposed some valuable medical and literary essays, prepared for publication, are in the possession of his family, which it would be desirable to see. The public attention has not been recalled to his writings by new editions, either collectively or individually, in the intervening period, except by the republication of his *Zeluco* in the collection of the

* A publication under an imposing title, "The Post-Captain, or the Wooden Walls well manned, comprehending a View of Naval Society and Manners," 8vo, 1806, has been ascribed to Dr. Moore; but all evidence, internal and external, is against the supposition of its being the production of his chaste and elegant pen.

"British Novelists," in 50 vols. 12mo, 1810, edited by Mrs. Barbauld. A selection from his writings, undertaken upon the popular plan of publishing the "Beauties" of eminent writers, entitled, "Mooriana," &c. was printed in 2 vols. 12mo, 1802, compiled by the Rev. F. Prevost and J. Blagdon, Esq. who profess to "have had principally in view the amusement of that class of readers, who by a limited fortune are prevented from purchasing bulky and expensive publications."* Whatever may have been the design of the compilers, the popularity of the author is but little indebted to this partial recommendation. The copiousness of the compilation is no compensation for its injudiciousness. The extracts are not arranged under proper heads, and there is a total omission of the necessary designation of the particular works from which they are selected. This mode of publishing selections from works of credit, unless immediately intended for the use of schools, does but multiply books to no good end,† and fortunately, in the fluctuation of public taste, has been, for some time, gradually, and deservedly, losing the encouragement of the people.

His character, as a man and as an author, will be better understood from the general view which has been given of his life and writings, than from any formal laboured comment; yet it may not be

* "Taken collectively, the works of Dr. Moore contain about ten thousand pages, of a large 8vo edition, the most instructive and entertaining part of which we have endeavoured to compress in 600." Preface, p. 7.

† Kearsley's "Beauties of Johnson" furnishes a laudable example of selection, applied to a body of maxims and observations, of general use. The foreign "Books in *Ana*," are useful complements of a different class.

irrelevant to collect into one view his most prominent peculiarities and distinguishing qualifications.

His person and manners announced vigour of body and intrinsic worth. His form was manly and graceful.* His features were regular and prepossessing. His eye expressed, at once, penetration and benignity. His air and manner commanded respect, while it inspired affection. His behaviour and address bore the genuine stamp of true politeness; dignified, with ease and grace, and affable, without vanity or affectation. His conversation was various and versatile, combining knowledge of the world, quickness of discernment, facility of thought, enlivened by native wit, delicacy of taste, vivacity of imagination, and a playful vein of irony, without levity or sarcasm. In the profession of a physician, which combines, in an eminent degree, the useful and the amiable qualities, the solid talents which dignify, and the sweet courtesies which decorate character, he possessed a distinguished popularity, maintained, during a long period, in a great commercial city, not by sinister arts, but by the well-earned fruit of an excellent education, engrafted on an excellent understanding. His successful and extensive practice was the natural and necessary result of a shrewd and sagacious intellect, assiduously cultivated by the habit of reading and reflection, and especially by a disposition to keep pace with the progress of medical science,

* His portrait, by Sir Thomas Lawrence, of which there is a mezzotinto engraving, is esteemed a faithful likeness. There is also an engraving of a drawing, sketched by W. Lock, Esq., of a posterior date.

without the pride of rejecting improvement, under the invidious name of innovation. Joining to the inquisitiveness of the philosopher the humanity of the physician, he found ample opportunity, in the course of his profession, of forming a just estimate of human life, of appretiating the weakness and the worth of human nature, for the use of his moral contrasts. With his professional accomplishments he united the elegant attainments which adorn the character of the man of letters, an intimate acquaintance with classical and polite literature, and the various branches of modern learning. His admiration of poetry excited him occasionally to compose verses, as the vehicles of sentiment and imagery, commonly without effort, or perseverance. In his political sentiments he was a consistent Whig, the enemy of arbitrary power, the friend of civil and religious liberty, the supporter of those popular principles which form the spirit of the British constitution, and the upholder of the just prerogatives of the crown. These were the associating principles of his youthful friendships, and they consolidated the attachments of his maturer years. In the social relations, he fulfilled the duties of friendship with cordiality and steadiness; he was hospitable, without ostentation; a cheerful and entertaining companion; respected for his wit, ingenuity, and knowledge; esteemed for his liberality, integrity, moderation, and modesty; and beloved for his benevolence, simplicity, and singular goodness of heart. In the domestic relations he was amiable and exemplary, fulfilling the offices of amity, and the reciprocities of kindness by the most engaging amenity, the most delicate

sensibility. To an amiable woman, he was a husband, at once, polite and tender, affectionate, and respectful. In the bosom of a family, whose welfare he had always in view, and who rewarded his parental solicitude by their merit and affection, he enjoyed all the happiness in which a husband and a father can participate,—the grace and goodness of domestic life, its uniform cheerfulness, its inestimable equanimity.

As an author, Dr. Moore has distinguished himself as a *Journalist of Travels*, a *Medical Essayist*, and a *Novelist*, and must be acknowledged to have added considerably to the public stock of useful and elegant literature.

Of his two *Journals* of travels in *France* and *Italy*, little is to be added to the view which has already been given in the chronicle of his writings. They contain, not mere descriptions of places, or tedious historical dissertations on the various governments, the common topics of modern travellers, but acute and enlightened observations on the arts, sciences, literature, commerce, and antiquities of the various countries, faithful pictures of distinguished men, and discriminating sketches of national character, interspersed with amusing and lively anecdotes, related in an easy, flowing style, with a happy vein of irony and pleasantry.

The third *Journal* of his travels in *France*, comprises a variety of observations on the manners, opinions, and transactions of the French, at the eventful period in which, upon the ruins of the monarchical system, the new republic arose, amidst flames, and massacres, and shocks of conflicting parties. The character of the French, as delineated in 1779, and the picture of the same people drawn in

1792, form a contrast the most striking imaginable.* The representations of the vicissitudes of folly, wickedness, and cruelty, terminating in the catastrophe of the unfortunate Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, stamp the journal of public transactions with a large portion of interest. The king is represented to have been really satisfied with the constitution, and determined to be faithful to it, provided it was allowed to be faithful to him, though he is acknowledged to have entered into some measures very capable of misinterpretation.

* He accounts for the alteration in an advertisement prefixed to the ninth edition of his *View of Society in France*, &c. 1800.

“ The late revolution in France has been considered as a proof that an erroneous idea of the sentiments of the French nation on the subject of government, is conveyed in this work. It ought to be remembered, that in an interval of ten years, nations of a more steady character than the French, have changed their political sentiments and conduct.

“ A traveller who passed through England in the year 1649, would give a very different account of the general bias of political opinions, from what would be given by another who lived in the same country at the year of the restoration, and yet both accounts might be just.

“ What a very opposite turn did the national sentiment take towards the end of the reign of Charles II, when Russell and Sidney suffered ; and afterwards, when the seeds of liberty which those patriots had sown, came to maturity, and produced the revolution.

“ Opinions, as well as manners, are continually varying ; all that an observer can do, is to catch them *living as they rise*, and describe them as they are ; not as they will be when they alter and die.

“ Those who are acquainted with what the prevalent manners and opinions of the French were when these letters and the *Journal* first appeared, will, perhaps, do the author the justice to say, that the view he has given is pretty accurate.”

The annals of the unfortunate do not record any thing more dreadfully affecting than the misfortunes and sufferings of the queen, inflicted by complicated cowardice, baseness, and cruelty. The names of Robespierre and Marat, the two heroes of massacre, will be pronounced with execration by succeeding generations, as they rise. Among the characteristic portraits, the mild features of Roland cannot be overlooked. So highly was he esteemed by his countrymen, that he never entered the convention without a general whisper of approbation. Among the victims of tyranny, the fate of Vergniaud, the Cicero of the convention, is deplorable. There is nothing more surprising, in the stages of the revolution, than the rapidity with which one set of actors, having driven off their predecessors, have themselves been laid aside by the increasing influence of newer favourites, who, in their turn, gave way to others. Almost all the individuals who are represented as having influence and authority, from their talents, popularity, or station, have fallen a sacrifice to the caprice and passions of their countrymen. A just eulogium is introduced on "constitutions so admirably poised, that they require no dangerous renovation, and which contain within their fabric the safe means of repair when they are needed." The description of the insurrection of the 10th of August, excited by false surmises of plots and proscriptions, is deeply interesting. The representation of the following scene is so exceedingly lively and picturesque, that it is impossible to avoid transcribing it.

" I have this day been witness to many interest-

ing and even affecting scenes in the streets. During the cannonade and noise of the musketry, the grief and anxiety of all for the friends and relations they knew to be then engaged, produced a most expressive silence in some, while the air was rent by the exclamations of others, particularly the women and children, who trembled for the lives of fathers, husbands, and brothers, who had left their families at the first call to arms, and had not been seen since. When the action was over, and the national guards returning, many of the women rushed into the ranks to embrace and felicitate their husbands and brothers on their safety. I saw one father of a numerous family met at his own door by his wife and children. After embracing each other as they crowded around him, he entered the shop, carrying one of his children in each of his arms; his daughter following with his grenadier's cap in her hands, and his two little boys dragging his musket."

The comprehensive historical deduction of the *Causes* and *Progress* of the revolution, reminds us, in many parts, directly and unavoidably, of the observations in the *Journal*; but the information which it comprises, concerning many interesting circumstances, is more ample, and digested with more regularity, than is compatible with the ease and sprightliness of a journal of daily occurrences.

His reputation as a writer in the department of medicine rests on his *Sketches* of physiology and febrile diseases, the enlargement of which he meditated, but never completed, though he had ample provision of materials for the completion. The subjects, nevertheless, are highly interesting to hu-

manity, and illustrated with practical observations and apposite anecdotes, of general utility, the result of his reading, experience, and reflection, in a style of popular simplicity, vivacity, and clearness.*

As a writer of that species of romance which is known by the more common name of *Novel*, he is characterized by profound knowledge of the world, admirable good sense, intimate acquaintance with human nature, a lively imagination, a rich vein of original humour, and an incomparable power of representing life and manners with discrimination, force, and delicacy. His novels are not of the sentimental, or the marvellous kind. They are very different from the silly productions of frivolous vanity, romantic sentiment, and sickly affectation. They excite no curiosity by the wonderful machinery of ghosts and wizards. They are not distinguished by singularity and inconsistency in their characters, by deep evolutions of events, rapid conversions of fortune, or by scenes of complicated distress and unexpected deliverance. The story is merely to be considered as the canvass on which the acute and good-natured observer of the manners of his own age, delineates, with a moral design, a variety of pictures of domestic life, in the highest degree instructive and entertaining. With the machinery of ordinary incident, we find the latent sources of human actions, and the incongruities of conduct arising from them, developed, and men and women of every station, especially those of the

* This popular medical treatise has not been collected with his works, from an apprehension that it might be thought improperly associated, as a strictly professional performance, with his other writings.

higher ranks, acting their several parts, in a great variety of scenes, with all the infinite modifications of vanity, the innumerable despicable artifices of selfishness, the vast variety of the shades of ridicule, and those whimsical affectations and childish caprices which distinguish the superior circles of society.

In the character and sufferings of *Zeluco*, he delineates, with a masterly touch and strong colouring, the progressive depravity of the darling son of an indulgent mother, undisciplined by education, the horrible features of villany, and the inward misery inseparable from vice, in spite of the gayest and most prosperous appearances. The important moral of the story is, that the concurrence of every fortunate circumstance cannot produce happiness, or even tranquillity, independent of conscious integrity. In displaying the external magnificence and internal misery of his hero, many subordinate characters are introduced, accurately described, and nicely discriminated, and many maxims of morality illustrated by observations, sometimes new, and always ingenious, solid, and striking. The work may be considered as a series of moral observations, connected by one entertaining and instructive story, in which the dryness of reasoning is enlivened by the charms of narration, and the weakness of precept enforced by the power of example. It is distinguished by a recommendation of a more peculiar kind, the exquisite facility of dramatic dialogue, and a very considerable share of true and original humour. In the multitude of characters described and contrasted in the work, the virtues of *Bertram*, and the uninterrupt-

ed tranquillity of his mind, notwithstanding the poverty of his circumstances, and the severity of his fortune, form a striking contrast to the vices, the prosperity, and the misery of *Zeluco*. Buchanan, a Scotch presbyterian and whig, is set in opposition to Targe, a Scotch jacobite and tory, and the extravagancies of both parties are finely painted, and strongly ridiculed. The picture of Transfer, a wealthy citizen of London, will apply to many an original. The characters of the Countess Brunella, Signora Sporza, and Rosalia, are drawn with spirit. Father Mulo and the French surgeon who attended *Zeluco*, are remarkable characters. His excellence in describing national character is often displayed by a single stroke. His refutation of the defence of that disgrace of human nature, negro-slavery, is forcible and triumphant. The dying prayer of Hanno, a faithful and compassionate African slave, for the limited duration of the future punishment of his cruel oppressor, is pathetic, in no ordinary degree. The dangerous and unjustifiable attachment of Laura to Carlostein is manifested with perfect delicacy, and their union accomplished, with consummate prudence. Humanity is shocked, and the imagination disgusted, at the horrible features of the hero, a model of depravity; yet the representation of the self-accusation of his villany, and the awful punishment distributed to him in the catastrophe, is calculated to illustrate the truth of the great maxim, which religion teaches, and experience proves,—that deviation from virtue is deviation from happiness. According to this representation, the more detestable the hero of a romance is made, the better will the work serve the purposes of morality; but the

advantage may be reasonably doubted ; for the representation of a series of crimes may give a mind, unseasoned by experience, an insight into vice, which the punishment to which it is liable may not prevent being put in practice.

“ In narratives where historical veracity has no place,” our great English moralist observes, “ I cannot discover why there should not be exhibited the most perfect idea of virtue ; of virtue not angelical nor above probability, for what we cannot feel we shall never imitate, but the highest and purest that humanity can reach, which exercised in such trials as the various revolutions of things shall bring upon it, may, by conquering some calamities, and enduring others, teach us what we may hope, and what we can perform. Vice, for vice is necessary to be shewn, should always disgust ; nor should the graces of gayety, or the dignity of courage, be so united with it as to reconcile it to the mind. Wherever it appears, it should raise hatred by the malignity of its practice, and contempt by the meanness of its stratagems ; for while it is supported by either parts, or spirit, it will be seldom heartily abhorred. The Roman tyrant was content to be hated, if he was but feared ; and there are thousands of the readers of romances willing to be thought wicked, if they may be allowed to be wits. It is, therefore, to be steadily inculcated, that virtue is the highest proof of understanding, and the only solid basis of greatness ; and that vice is the natural consequence of narrow thoughts ; that it begins in mistake, and ends in ignominy.” *

* Rambler, No. 4.

In the story of *Edward*, the opinion of this excellent writer concerning the morality of fictitious narratives is exemplified in the representation of a more perfect character, in the principal personage, than is commonly to be met with in ordinary life, with the happiest effect. His great knowledge of life and character, the result of keen observation and just thought, enables him to make his work a great exhibition of the varieties of human nature, and of genuine English growth. The outline of the story has already been given. The introduction of the principal personage differs little from the contrivance of common novels. But he has rendered truly interesting, on account of her good sense and unbounded benevolence of heart, a lady, who had neither beauty nor accomplishments to recommend her, and excited our most lively interest in favour of his hero, who, in many trying situations, displays, invariably, an amiable and manly mind. The subordinate characters are faithful representatives of those we meet with in daily society, but they are less striking from the familiarity with which we recognise their parallels in common life. Sir George Royston, Mr. Carnaby Shadow, Myrtle, and Shuffle, are encountered every day in the fashionable circles. Mr. Barnet, a perfectly original character, is an exception to the above remark. He is represented as an opulent country gentleman, whose first passion and propensity is that of epicurean indulgence, but who by the gentle artifices of his good and amiable wife, is made to exhibit traits of latent good feeling, and to perform acts truly benevolent and meritorious. Mr. Wormwood also is distinguished by some features

of natural peculiarity. The ladies are pourtrayed with much ease and elegance; but they cannot be said to excite particular interest from any novelty of situation in which they are placed, or from any natural or acquired endowments by which they are distinguished. The liveliness of narration, at least, gives the effect of novelty to the winding up of the story, by the trite contrivance of recognising a lost child from a mark on the shoulder, a locket, and a miniature picture.

The story of *Mordaunt* is complicated with sketches of national character and manners, and descriptions of foreign customs and local scenery, not strictly relevant to the story, which give it more the appearance of a journal of travels than a dramatic narrative. It receives little additional interest or force from the epistolary form, which is seldom characteristically supported; but it is enriched by a large portion of popular information, and embellished by a variety of correct and lively portraits of domestic and familiar life. The characters indigenous to our own soil, are drawn with a vigorous and skilful hand, and the descriptions of the prevalent manners, fashions, and parties, are often rendered more lively and entertaining by being mixed with anecdote, and thrown into the dramatic form of dialogue. The author's familiarity with the manners of foreign countries, and his habits of intimacy with the superior classes of society, are everywhere distinctly recognisable. The portrait of his hero, drawn from life, is presented at full length, an accomplished man of fashion, the generosity of his principles and the brilliancy of his manners shaded by the hues of libertinism. In

this intermixture of the amiable and vicious qualities, there seems to be no small danger that by a too natural association of ideas, the one part of the character may be confounded with the other, and the whole be considered as a proper object of imitation. With the exception of the principal personage, modelled on the mixed character of the heroes of modern romances, the pictures of persons differing widely in principles, understanding, rank, and education, illustrate the motives of prudence, and recommend the observance of moral duty.

On a general view of his productions in the department of fiction, it will appear, that he has humorously delineated and ridiculed the common weaknesses and follies of the world, the affected apathy of the fashionable, the repulsive vanity of titled fools, and the cold insensibility of grandeur; steadily maintained the principles of public liberty; warmly vindicated the cause of suffering humanity; and invariably inculcated this maxim,—that uprightness, integrity, and somewhat of an independent spirit, lead with more certainty to prosperity, even in this life, than hypocrisy, fraud, and servility.

In an estimate of the various writings of Dr. Moore, some consideration is due to the style, which is characterized by more vigour than elegance, more vivacity than purity, more correctness than grace. It is sometimes marked with idiomatic phrases, but is generally clear, lively, and agreeable, well adapted to familiar description and simple narration, and is particularly calculated to express irony and shrewd simplicity, in dramatic dialogue, and story-telling.

The elegant and judicious author of the “*Morality of Fiction*,” in his classical arrangement of

the writers of fictitious narratives, has estimated the qualifications of Dr. Moore with candour, impartiality, and precision.

“ Dr. Moore has given an admirable picture of the manners of young men of fashion, and of the various follies to which they are liable. The portraits of this writer appear to me juster, more free from exaggeration and caricature, than those of any other that has yet been mentioned.* This may probably be ascribed to his great knowledge of the world, and to that good sense, which, rather than any brilliancy of parts, seems to have formed the predominant feature of his character.

“ *Zeluco* is a singular, and somewhat whimsical performance. Fiction affords an opportunity of representing, not better only, but also worse characters than are to be found in real life; and the representation may not be altogether without its use. The picture is strongly drawn; yet *Zeluco* does not appear to me to be the best of Dr. Moore's productions; nor that which affords most scope for the display of his peculiar excellencies. This place I would assign to *Edward*, a work abounding with knowledge of the world, and lively delineation of character. That of its hero, too, is such as entitles it to hold a respectable rank among the third order of fiction.†

“ *Mordaunt* is exceptionable in the character of its hero, which is that of a dissolute man of fashion, entirely devoid of principle, and with almost no

* Richardson, Fielding, Smollett.

† The class of novels, which, according to the author's arrangement, exhibits examples of conduct superior to those which are to be met with in ordinary life.

good qualities except wit and good nature. Yet by means of these, united with a large fortune, and a handsome person, he becomes the complete fine gentleman, the envy of one sex and the admiration of the other. This is evidently holding out a very dangerous and seductive example. As a picture of manners, this novel is inferior to *Edward*; yet some parts, particularly towards the conclusion, possess great merit in this respect.”*

The venerable Mrs. Barbauld, distinguished by the application of excellent talents to the noblest ends, in exciting infancy to virtue, and maturer age to the love of freedom, has assigned Dr. Moore a distinguished place among the English writers of prosaic fiction, and appreciated his productions with liberal, discriminating taste and judgment.

“ The novel of *Zeluco* is one of the most entertaining we possess, from the real knowledge of the world which it displays, and the humour and spirit of the dialogue. It also excites no small degree of interest. The scene is laid in Italy, and the familiarity of the author with foreign manners, enabled him to diversify his productions with descriptions and characters beyond the range of our own domestic society. This work is formed on the singular plan of presenting a hero of the story, if hero he may be called, who is a finished model of depravity. *Zeluco* is painted as radically vicious, without the intermixture of any one good quality; but if the perfectly virtuous character is to be considered, for so we are sometimes told, as out of nature, “ a faultles monster, whom the world ne’er

* Morality of Fiction, &c. by Hugh Murray, Esq. author of the “ Swiss Emigrants,” “ Corasmin,” &c. 12mo, p. 111.

saw," it is to be hoped a perfectly vicious character is at least as extraordinary a production. There is no degree of atrocity to which human nature may not arrive from time and circumstances ; want and misery harden the heart as well as the features ; but it is scarcely conceivable that a youth coming into life with every advantage of fortune, and person, and abilities, should never feel his heart expand, amongst his youthful companions, into some kindly feeling, bearing at least the semblance of benevolence. The whole character has a darker tinge of villany than is usually found in this country ; it is drawn with great strength, and proceeds in a regular progress of depravity, from his squeezing the sparrow to death when a child, to the incident of the deadly grasp which he gives his own child ; a circumstance of horror, new, and truly original. It reaches, like the character of Satan, the sublime of guilt. The attachment between the wife and the lover is managed with great delicacy ; yet if she preserves her virtue, it may be said to be *heureusement* ; and amiable and excellent as they both are, it may admit of a doubt how far it is favourable to good morals to interest the reader in a passion for a married woman, however unhappily she may be yoked. The character of Signora Sporza is drawn with spirit ; it is quite a foreign one. The conversation pieces abound in humour, and show that intimate knowledge of real life and characters, which mere sentimental novels are generally deficient in. The quarrel between the two Scotchmen about the character of their queen, Mary, is infinitely amusing ; and while it touches the national character and national partial-

ities, with the hand of a friend, it at the same time exhibits them in a light truly comic. Father Mulo is amusing; and there is a good deal of light humour in the story of Rosalia, or rather in the manner of telling it. Much knowledge of the world and good sense are exhibited in the dialogues between the hot-headed young protestant divine and the colonel whose wife he insists upon converting; the death-bed of the latter is affecting, and exhibits views of piety, if not vivid, at least calm and rational. It must by no means be forgotten, that to the honour of the author, there is a great deal of forcible reasoning against the slave-trade; and there is no stroke in Sterne of a finer pathos than the answer of the dying Hanno, when he was told that his cruel master would broil in hell to all eternity,—“ I hope he will not suffer so long.” The young may melt into tears at *Julia Mandeville* and the *Man of Feeling*; the romantic will love to shudder at *Udolpho*; but those of mature age, who know what human nature is, will take up again and again Dr. Moore’s *Zeluco*.

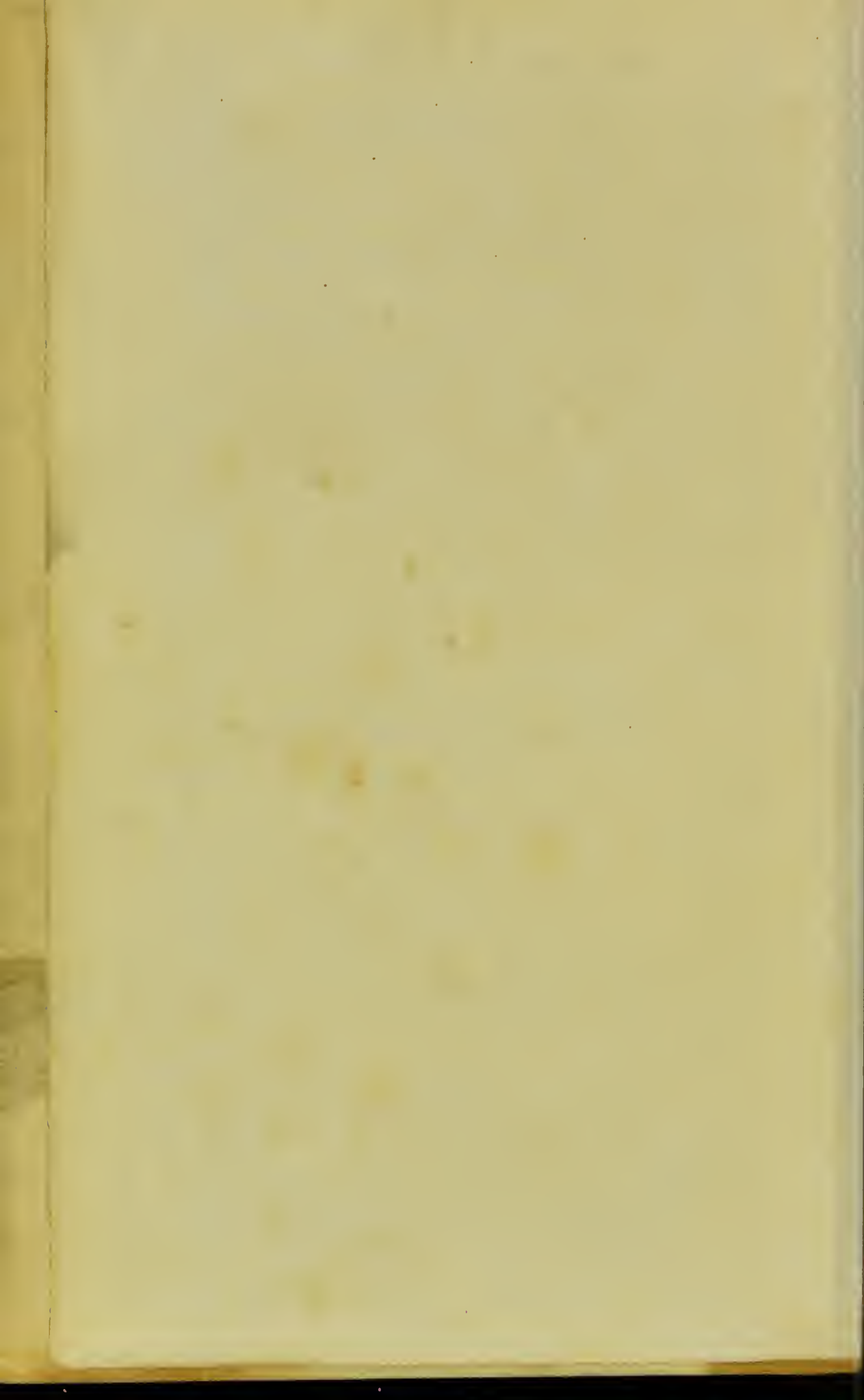
“ *Edward*, the author’s next publication of the kind, is much inferior to *Zeluco*; the best character in it is that of Barnet, the epicure, who is indifferent to every thing but a good table, and marries his wife for her skill in preparing a dish of stewed carp. It has also many amusing conversation pieces. Dr. Moore tells a story well, but it must be allowed he makes the most of it. He has not spared his own profession; but has some lively strictures on the incapacity and *charlatanerie* of pretenders in it. He drew with a free pen; and from his acquaintance with life, and facility in dia-

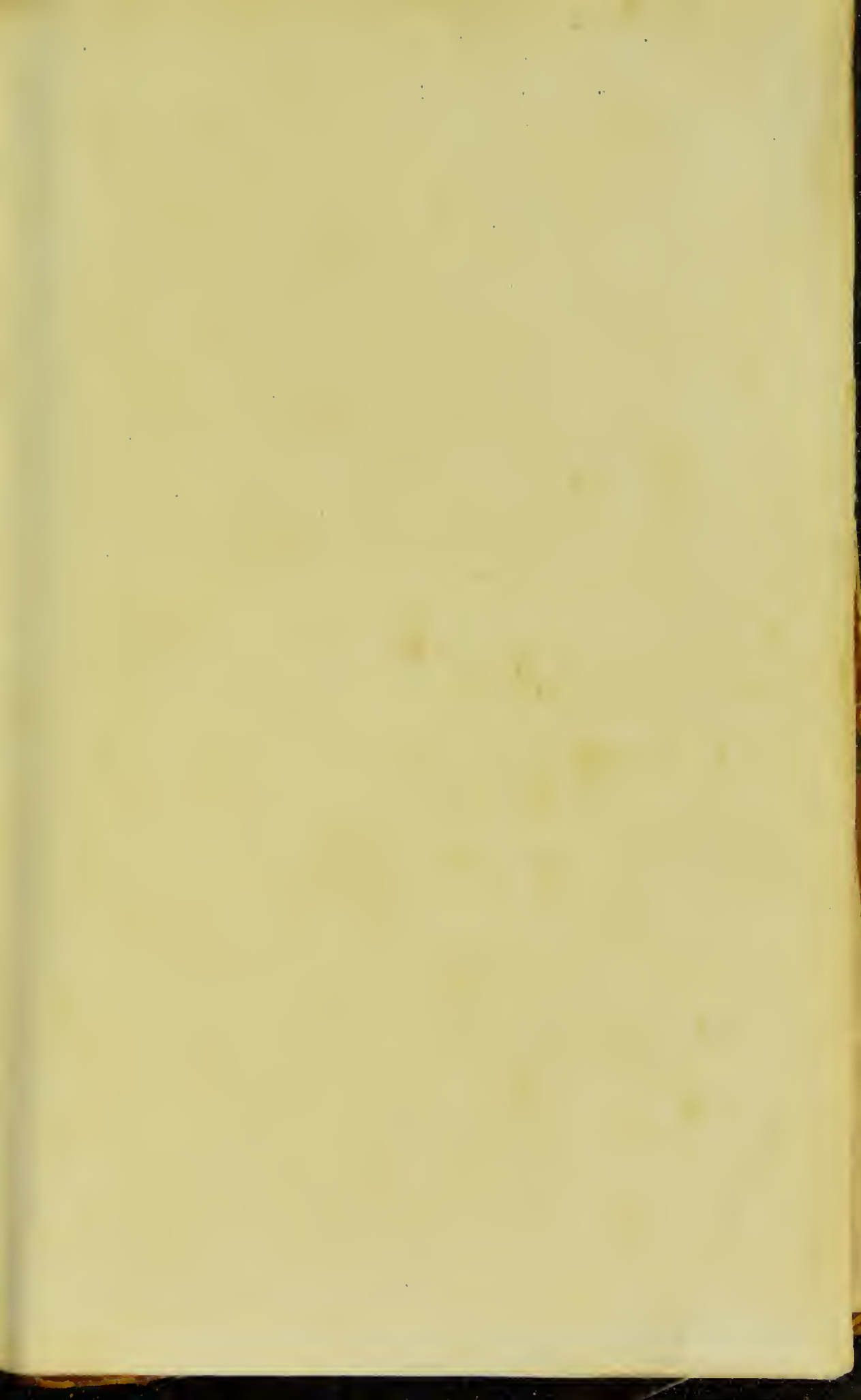
logue, it seems 'probable' that he would have succeeded in comedy if he had turned his thoughts that way.

"*Mordaunt*, written a little before his death, is a very languid production; both his novels subsequent to *Zeluco* are not only inferior in entertainment to his first work, but what was less to be expected, inferior in morality."*

* British Novelists, vol. i.

END OF THE LIFE OF DR. MOORE.





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